

Adult Sports

Courts and Playfields
Valley View, 9000 Portland Ave. S.
Dred Scott, 10820 Bloomington Ferry Road

Adult Tennis Lessons - USA Tennis 1-2-3

Level I - Instruction: Learn the basic skills with innovative teaching techniques, drills and games needed to start playing.
Level II - Supervised Play: Low-key doubles play. Learn strategy, tiebreakers, scoring and service rotation.

Who: Ages 18 and over.
When: Two lessons per week for three weeks.
Session I: Mondays and Wednesdays, April 15 - May 1.
Level I: 6 p.m.
Level II: 7 p.m.
Session II: Mondays and Wednesdays, May 6 - 22.
Level I: 6 p.m.
Level II: 7 p.m.

Where: Dred Scott Playfield.
Cost: \$43.50 per person for six one-hour lessons.
Class Size: Minimum 4 students; maximum 8.
Register: Pre-registration is required.

Bloomington Women's Tennis Club

Organized in 1973, this club promotes new friendships through a singles tennis ladder and doubles leagues. All levels of players, beginners to advanced, are encouraged to participate. Three doubles leagues will be offered again this year.

When: Advanced Intermediate: Wednesdays and Thursdays;
Intermediate: Thursdays.
Contact: Ann Riplinger, 952-942-9228.

Men's Tennis Ladder - Singles Play

Offers beginner, intermediate and advanced levels of play with a minimum of one match per month.

When: Ladder play, May 13 - August 31.
Cost: \$26.
Register: By Friday, May 3.

Men's Doubles League

Find a steady partner and play once a week, beginning in June. Maximum 12 teams per division.

When: Advanced Intermediate: Mondays.
Advanced: Tuesdays.
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Where: Valley View Playfield.
Cost: \$72 per team.
Register: By Friday, May 17.

Senior Tennis Players Club
Bloomington Chapter 55 and Over

Interested in fun, exercise, and meeting people who enjoy tennis? Join this friendly and lively group every weekday morning at the courts. It's free!

WHEN: Monday - Friday, April 1 - September 27, 7 - 9 a.m.
No play Friday, July 26.
Where: Valley View Courts.
Contact: Cliff McMinn, 952-888-4989.
WHEN: Monday - Friday, June 3 - September 13, 8 - 10 a.m.
No play Friday, July 26.
Where: Dred Scott Courts.
Contact: Chuck Supplee, 952-947-9451.



Summer Sand Volleyball

Divisions: Women's and Co-Rec Leagues.
When: Evenings, June 3 - August 15 (10 weeks).
Where: Dred Scott Playfield.
Cost: \$170 Recreation Leagues. \$222 Refereed Leagues. Teams are responsible for bringing one recreation volleyball.
Register: April 29 - May 10.

Daytime Volleyball

Here is your chance to exercise and enjoy volleyball during the mornings. All games are played at the Bloomington National Guard Training Center, 3300 W. 98th Street. You don't need a team, just show up, teams are formed each week.

When: All year, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$1.25 per session.

Bloomington Horseshoe Club

From May through August, the Horseshoe Club leagues will pitch week nights at 7 p.m. at the Valley View Courts. The Club is nationally and state sanctioned with league players receiving handicaps. To register for league participation, call Gene Gross at 952-831-0953. ♦



This friendly competition between work sites encourages employees to shape up! Each work site coordinator receives special training and all materials needed. Every week employees record points, awarded for aerobic, strength training and flexibility activities. Trophies are awarded to the companies with the most points per employee. Sponsored by Parks and Recreation, this is a great way to introduce fitness, team spirit and a little fun into your work environment!

When: April 22 - June 2.
Cost: Varies, based on total number of employees.
Contact: Chad Duerkop in Parks and Recreation. ♦



Bloomington Art Center

Classes

Registration is underway for Summer Day Camps for Kids, June 10 - August 23, at the Bloomington Art Center. Join us for week long multimedia art experiences for youth, ages 3-1/2 through 6th grade. For more information, call 952-563-4777.

Theater

The Bloomington Art Center Gallery Players present an alternative theater on the last Saturday of each month.

Where: Art Center Gallery, 10206 Penn Ave. S.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$5.



April 27 Poetry Slam - Showcases talented poets and performers.

May 25 Readers' Theater - Plays, short stories or dramatic adaptations read and performed by an ensemble of actors. ♦

Garden plots

Garden plots are available at E. 83rd Street and Park Avenue S. Cost is \$25. ♦

Canoe rack rentals

Canoe racks on the West side of Bush Lake are available for rent May 1 through October 31. Cost is \$52. ♦

Summer Fete

Bloomington Summer Fete is Wednesday, July 3, at Normandale Lake Park, 84th and Normandale. Help by making a donation or purchasing a T-shirt for \$10 or button for \$2. Watch for the "I Support Summer Fete Fireworks" envelope in your City utility bill. For sponsorship, call 952-563-8881. ♦

Gideon Pond Open House

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Gideon H. Pond House, 401 E. 104th St., is open the third Sunday of each month, 1:30 - 4 p.m. Programs are scheduled each month in conjunction with the house tours.

When: Sunday, April 21.
Learn how to make cornhusk dolls!
Time: Session I: 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Session II: 3 - 4 p.m.
Cost: \$2 donation.
RSVP: Call 952-563-8881. Limited space available. ♦

Summer employment

Parks and Recreation is seeking highly motivated and creative people to fill a variety of seasonal positions. For an application, call us today or download it from the City's Web site. ♦



Earth Day 2002

Earth Day is April 22 - a time to reflect on what the Earth has given us and how we can protect our planet.

Take part in Earth Day celebrations. Attend the **Living Green Expo** to get information on earth-friendly living. When cleaning out your garage for the **Citywide Garage Sale** or **Curbside Cleanup**, make sure to dispose of hazardous materials properly. Show your neighbors you care about water quality. **Use phosphorus-free fertilizer** and post a sign to spread the word. **Adopt-A-Wetland** and improve one of Bloomington's greatest natural resources.

Please help us improve the quality of our environment - for today and for future generations.

Nine Mile Creek curb markers

Nine Mile Creek Watershed District is promoting pollution awareness by installing storm drain curb markers. Displaying the message, "No Dumping - Drains to Nine Mile Creek," the markers may soon be seen on storm drains within Bloomington. Pending necessary approval, Cub Scout Pack 461, Den 6, from Olson Elementary, will be installing the storm drain markers on Saturday, April 27, in celebration of Earth Day. ♦

Citizen advisors sought for river watershed district

The Lower Minnesota River Watershed District is looking for citizens to serve as advisors to the district's board of managers. The district is responsible for improving the water quality of the section of the Minnesota River that begins west of the city of Carver and ends at the Mississippi River at Fort Snelling State Park. Concerns include pollutants in stormwater, soil erosion runoff, protection of creeks, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas, flooding, bank protection and dredge material deposit sites. Advisors review district policies, alert the board to water quality problems and help educate homeowners and businesses on how to protect river quality. For more information, call Kevin Bigalke at 952-496-8842. ♦



Wetland monitors needed

Participate in the Wetland Health Evaluation Program this summer. Adult volunteers work in a team with other city residents to study the biological health of wetlands and receive training on wetland monitoring, including plant and insect identification. No science background or previous experience is needed. Time commitment is approximately 40 - 50 hours from May through July and includes training, field and lab work. For more information, call Tim Reese with the Hennepin Conservation District at 763-420-2157.

The Wetland Health Evaluation Program is a joint venture between the City of Bloomington and the Hennepin Conservation District. ♦

Living Green Expo explores environmental choices

Minnesota's first Living Green Expo is a free, family event exploring earth-friendliness and future trends in workshops, exhibits and demonstrations. The expo will feature information on:

- ♦ Alternative and hybrid cars, new fuels, mass transportation, biking and carpooling.
- ♦ Home energy-saving and cost-cutting ideas.
- ♦ Renewable energy: resi-

dential solar power, wind power and geothermal energy.

♦ Home building and remodeling: green design, recycled and sustainable building materials.

♦ Organic, sustainable and locally grown foods.

♦ Chemical-free gardens and lawns, landscaping for wildlife and water quality, and composting.

♦ Earth-friendly household

cleaners, recycling and water conservation.

The Living Green Expo will be held on Saturday, April 27, at the State Capitol Grounds and Armory, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.livinggreenexpo.org or call the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency at 651-296-8709. ♦

Adopt-A-Wetland

The Adopt-A-Wetland Program is for community groups, homeowner associations, businesses or others who want to help with the improvement and upkeep of a Bloomington wetland, lake or stream.

Healthy environment

Nearly all of more than 300 water bodies in our community lead to the Minnesota River. Neighborhood water bodies are a source of recreation, a haven for wildlife and

part of a healthier environment for everyone. By adopting a wetland, lake or stream, you are improving one of Bloomington's greatest natural resources.

Activities

Schools, families, scouts, church or youth groups looking for service projects can try these suggested activities:

- ♦ Organize a trash and debris cleanup.
- ♦ Monitor lake and stream water quality.

♦ Control and monitor toxic weeds that destroy wetland habitats.

♦ Collect wetland data for analysis.

♦ Re-vegetate a shoreline using native plants.

♦ Educate property owners adjacent to a wetland, lake or stream on shoreland management.

For more information, call 952-563-8751. ♦

Protect your child

Children are at a much higher risk than adults for harm from the toxic chemicals we put on our lawns. A child's normal hand-to-mouth behavior and play close to the ground increases exposure. Protect your family by limiting

the amount of toxic chemicals you use. Tips include:

- ♦ Spot treat. Apply herbicides and other chemicals only where needed.
- ♦ Keep children away from chemically treated areas.

♦ Thoroughly clean up any spills.

♦ Educate grandparents and caregivers on the dangers of toxic chemicals, if your child is in their care. ♦

For clean, clear water...spread the word !!!

Phosphorus in fertilizer causes significant algae growth in our lakes, streams and wetlands. Excess weeds decrease the water quality for plants and wildlife as well as for recreational use. Spread the word to preserve our valuable natural resource. Post a sign on your front lawn when you use phosphorus-free fertilizer. Leave the sign in place

for two weeks; then post it again each time you fertilize the "green way." Let others know you care about our environment so that they may follow your example.

For more information, call Public Works at 952-563-8751. ♦



Clean your garage without polluting the environment



Many products we use and store in our garage contain hazardous materials. For example, antifreeze, car batteries and lawn chemicals all become hazardous waste when they are no longer needed or useful. When cleaning this spring, remember that these items should not be thrown in the trash because they are harmful to waste disposal workers, water bodies and wildlife. Take these items to the South Hennepin Problem Waste and Recycling Facility, 1400 West 96th Street, where they can be recycled and disposed of properly. There is no drop-off fee.

When cleaning your garage, don't throw these items in the trash!

◆ Gasoline

Tip: Use up old gasoline or gas mixed with oil in lawnmowers or garden trimmers.

◆ Motor oil, oil filters, power steering, transmission and brake fluids.

◆ Liquid paint

Tip: Small amounts of latex paint can be dried out and disposed of in the trash.

◆ Tires

◆ Batteries

Buy the right amount! Purchasing only what you need not only saves money, but also reduces the amount of household hazardous waste you create! ◆

From the Ramsey County Department of Public Health.



Buckthorn removal

Buckthorn is a non-native shrub or small tree that takes over natural areas, crowding out native plants. Removing this invasive shrub is a long-term process that requires several steps over a minimum five-year period. Cutting and removing mature plants, stump treatments, pulling seedlings and replanting with native species are critical to the success of restoring native plant communities.

Control buckthorn before it spreads

Steps for removing buckthorn include:

- ◆ Cut down all buckthorn trees greater than three inches in diameter. Pull up, by hand, trees less than one inch.
- ◆ Remove the stump or the tree will resprout. To avoid using chemicals, dig the stumps out with a shovel or ax.
- ◆ Remove seedlings with a hoe. By cutting down the seed-producing trees, you will eventually eliminate this problem.
- ◆ Educate your neighbors to keep buckthorn from spreading.
- ◆ Wrap buckthorn debris in bundles no longer than four feet. Set them out during the Citywide Curbside Cleanup or for pick up by your regular trash hauler.
- ◆ Replace buckthorn with native species to enhance the landscape of your yard.

For information, call the City Forester at 952-563-8760. ◆

From Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

New requirements for scrap metal pickup

Check the changes to the Citywide Curbside Cleanup



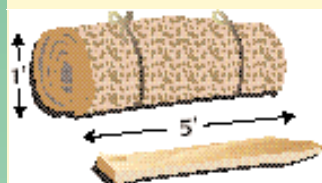
Cleanup schedule

Location	Regular trash day is:	2002 Curbside pickup is SATURDAY:
East of Portland	Monday	April 20
Portland to Penn	Tuesday	April 27
Penn to France	Wednesday	May 4
France to Normandale	Thursday	May 18
West of Normandale	Friday	June 8

- ◆ Put out materials no more than *two days* before your scheduled pick-up.
 - ◆ Set materials at the curb *before 7 a.m.* on your curbside pick-up day.
 - ◆ **Trucks will go through only once** on your scheduled day. If you miss the curbside pick-up, call your trash hauler who will pick up your refuse for a fee.
 - ◆ **Seniors or residents who are disabled:** Unable to handle the materials? Contact your Neighborhood Watch block captains – or call the Human Services Information Line for volunteer availability, 952-563-4957 V/TTY.
- Questions? Call the City's Solid Waste Section at 952-563-8750. ◆**

ACCEPTED at the curb

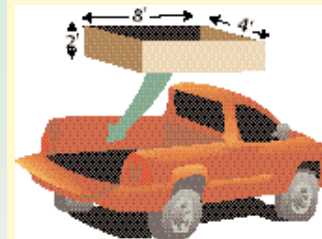
◆ **General junk:** Boxed or bundled – under 100 pounds per item. *No scrap metal or household trash, such as food.*



- ◆ **Carpets/pads:** Rolled and securely tied. Under five feet long and one foot in diameter – larger rolls are hard to handle.
- ◆ **Appliances:** Water heaters, microwaves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, freezers, etc. Limit TWO appliances per house. *For appliance pick-up, call 952-930-1828 by 4:30 p.m., the Friday before pick-up date.*

NEW!

- ◆ **Larger scrap metal ONLY:** Office desks, clothesline poles, swing sets. Remove wood, rubber, cement - all non-metal materials. NO cast iron tubs or items over 150 pounds. Take small items to the Henn. Co. Problem Facility for recycling. *See Items not accepted.*
- ◆ **Unusable furniture:** Disassemble hide-away sofa beds so they cannot open during handling.
- ◆ **Mattresses/box springs.**



- ◆ **Construction materials, lumber, windows and doors:** Pile limited to what fits in ONE level standard-size pickup truck. Lumber stacked and no longer than five feet. Bend nails. NO railroad ties. NO contractor materials.
- ◆ **BUNDLED brush:** Branches smaller than four inches in diameter and five feet in length. Includes buckthorn. *See article.* ◆

Options for items NOT ACCEPTED

Burnsville Landfill, 952-890-3248

- ◆ Concrete/bricks.
- ◆ Porcelain: Tubs, sinks.
- ◆ Shingles (No asbestos).

Hennepin County Problem Waste and Recycling Facility

1400 West 96th Street, 612-348-6500

- ◆ Hazardous waste: Paints, motor oil, solvents and other household chemicals. *See article.*
- ◆ Tires and batteries.
- ◆ Electronic goods: TVs, computers, stereos.
- ◆ Recyclable materials: Bottles, cans, paper.
- ◆ Gas-powered, refrigeration appliances: Camper/other refrigerators, air conditioners – call ahead 612-348-5832.

- ◆ **Small scrap metal items** that fit into a car trunk.

Natrogas, 612-529-9276

- ◆ Propane tanks.

NSP Composting, Burnsville, 952-736-1915

- ◆ Leaves, grass clippings, sod.
- ◆ Stumps, logs. ◆

Citywide Garage Sale

The Human Services Division presents the Third Annual Citywide Garage Sale, to be held Thursday through Saturday, May 2, 3 and 4.

Hold your own sale

Registration fee is \$19 and includes a yard sign, advertising and maps detailing sale addresses. Deadline is Friday, April 12.

Find the sales

Purchase your official garage sale list for \$1 beginning Wednesday, May 1, at City Hall and Creekside Community Center. Proceeds benefit the Senior Program.

For information, call Creekside Community Center at 952-563-4957 V/TTY. ◆

Coffeehouse plans percolating

An initiative is brewing that will provide Bloomington's youth with a safe place to spend their free time. Kennedy and Jefferson high school students will open a coffeehouse called Central Grounds, where youth can hear live music and get together in an environment free of tobacco, alcohol and drugs.

Raising start-up funds

"We hope to open Central Grounds sometime this year," said Kennedy senior Stefanie Nyman. "We need to raise the start-up funds of about \$270,000 from resident and business donations and grants. Both the Bloomington City Council and School Board have unanimously passed resolutions in support of the youth coffeehouse."

Community partnerships

Central Grounds is patterned after the successful Depot, a youth-run coffeehouse in Hopkins. "A partnership with the City of Hopkins, school district and local YMCA provides most backing for the Depot," explained Treb Allen, Jefferson senior. "It is our goal to pursue similar partnerships and to secure donated space."

Promoting youth

The Bloomington Youth Coffeehouse Initiative started percolating with Bloomington United for Youth (BUY), a citywide initiative designed to create a healthier community for youth. See page 3. Today, almost 50 youth and leading civic, school and supportive residents are helping to launch Central Grounds.

How you can help

Donations are needed to fund operations. Make checks payable to: Central Grounds Youth Coffeehouse Fund, P.O. Box 385422, Bloomington MN 55438. **In May join the Coffeehouse fundraiser "One Step Closer Walkathon."**

For information, call the BUY-LINE, 952-886-8802, or e-mail bycifedback@hotmail.com. ♦



Coffeehouse Initiative co-presidents Stefanie Nyman and Treb Allen consult on fundraising plans for the youth coffeehouse expected to open in 2002.

Healthy Community

Support teens, support parents

There's more to health promotion than fruits and vegetables - it's helping youth develop good habits, encouraging teens to say no, and supporting parents to stand strong. Bloomington Public Health offers the following programs:

Parent workshops

Free workshops for parents of middle and high school age students are held

during the school year. The workshops help parents with issues they might be facing with their teens. Parents gain support and insight from other parents who are dealing with the same concerns, as well as practical information from featured speakers. See *Youth and the Media*.

Together we stand

The potential dangers of spring break vacations is the

focus of an annual mailing sent to parents of 11th and 12th grade students. Prom and graduation are two other events that Public Health uses to underscore youth safety and health through alcohol-free celebrations.

Nutrition and physical activity

"Battling the bulge" has bridged the generation gap. More children are overweight, have Type II diabetes and are developing unhealthy eating and physical activity habits. To counter this trend, Tri-City Partners has formed a Nutrition and Physical Activity Action group that focuses on this problem.

For information on this or any of our programs, call Bloomington Public Health at 952-563-8900. ♦

Youth and the Media

Maximize the benefits and minimize the harm of mass media on your children and family. Parents of elementary, middle and high school students are invited to *Youth and Media and Its Effect: Making It Positive* featuring Resource Development Director Eileen McCarthy-Harness of the National Institute on Media and the Family. The free workshop will be Wednesday, April 10, from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Jefferson High School Auditorium, 4001 W. 102nd St. For information, call Bloomington Public Health at 952-563-4964.

List of smoke-free restaurants keeps growing!

Through listings on the City's Web site and in brochures, residents can find local smoke-free restaurants. Of the 157 restaurant that offer seating, 83 are

smoke-free. Smoke-free dining allows patrons to enjoy their favorite food without exposing themselves or their family to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

For a copy of our smoke-free dining guide for Bloomington, Edina and Richfield, call Bloomington Public Health at 952-563-8900. ♦

Serving You

The Bloomington Human Services Division offers a variety of programs, activities and services to meet our community's needs. For more information, call the Human Services Information Line at 952-563-4957 V/TTY. For transportation, call 952-563-4948.

Get online

Creekside Community Center offers computer classes tailored to the older learner. Subjects include: Computers for Absolute Beginners, Introduction to Personal Computers, Introduction to E-mail, Internet Basics, Greeting Cards and More, Windows Basics, Word Processing Basics and higher-level Word Processing. Costs vary with the length of the class.

Lab time is available to surf the Internet, practice computer skills or work on individual projects. Open Friday afternoons, the computer lab is managed by trained volunteers. ♦

Fill your dance card

A spring dance will be held on Wednesday, April 24, from 7 - 9 p.m., at the Bloomington Armory, 3300 W. 98th St. Entertainment will include the Zurah Shriners' Jolly Nobles Band. Refreshments and door prizes will also be available. The \$3 donation at the door will benefit Shriners' Hospitals. ♦

Enjoy your active life

Get moving! A variety of fitness opportunities for older adults are offered in the spring and summer including:

- ◆ Spring hiking.
- ◆ Creekside Cycling Club.
- ◆ 50+ Fitness.
- ◆ Tuesday/Thursday exercise.
- ◆ Co-Rec Bocce Ball. ♦

FamiLink Resource Center

Do you have questions about housing, legal needs, financial assistance, counseling or other issues? Would you like to know where you could get some help? Call the FamiLink Resource Center. Trained staff will help clarify issues, identify resources and options and connect you to valuable community resources, services and programs. For information, call FamiLink Resource Center at 952-884-0444. ♦

May is Older Americans' Month

The Senior Program will host a variety of events to celebrate Older Americans' Month including:

- ◆ Mayor's Breakfast.
- ◆ National Senior Health Fitness Day and Fun Walk.
- ◆ Spring Music Show.
- ◆ Special Life is Like a Valued Patchwork program. ♦

Essay contest

To celebrate Older Americans' Month, the Bloomington Human Services Division's Senior Program will sponsor an essay contest for sixth grade students on the topic, "My Grandparents" or "My Older Best Friend." Prizes will be awarded for the two best essays. Winning essays will be sent to the Minnesota Board on Aging for statewide judging.

Life is Like a Valued Patchwork

Another exciting season of topics include:

April 24 - Historic Community Landmarks with Minnesota photographer Doug Ohman. Cost is \$3, payable at

the door.

May 22 - Discover Your Taste Profile with the Wayzata Bay Spice Company. Cost is free. Sponsored by the Pines Assisted Living Community.

Programs are held at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Ave. S., from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m. ♦

Volunteers: A gift to the community

Volunteers in our community will be honored at a breakfast held at the Knights of Columbus' Marion Hall on Saturday, April 20. Honorees include those who serve as: commissioners and board members, Neighborhood Watch block captains, junior camp counselors, workers in City parks and volunteers with the many Parks and Recre-

ation and Human Services activities and programs.

Youth partnership

This year, the City will collaborate with youth-serving organizations to recognize young leaders. National Youth Service Day, April 26 - 28, will include a recognition celebration and a service project to raise community awareness of youth resources.

Celebrate volunteer month

April offers Bloomington citizens a chance to thank volunteers for their gifts to the community. For volunteer opportunities, visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us or call Human Services Coordinator Kerry Stone at 952-563-8737; TTY 952-563-8740. ♦

Community of Nations

Community of Nations, a new collaborative project, is building a bridge to help local immigrants access community resources and promote cultural understanding in the communities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield.

Bilingual cultural liaisons who speak Somali, Spanish, Russian, Italian and Vietnamese will:

- ◆ Assist immigrants experiencing barriers by providing access to services and resources.

- ◆ Partner with employers and providers to serve immigrant families.

- ◆ Act as a cultural resource for South Hennepin communities.

For more information, call Anab Gulaid, Project Coordinator, at 952-885-1275. ♦